(d) the role of the Centre in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) The Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Admission) Act, 2006 has come into force for admissions in the academic sessions commencing on or from the calendar year, 2007. The Act provides for reservation of 15% seats for the Scheduled Castes, 7.5% seats for the Scheduled Tribes and 27% seats for the OBCs. Reservation can be extended only to institutions covered by Section 2(d) of the Act. The Central Government has no role in respect of Institutions coming under the purview of States. However, article 15(5) of the Constitution empowers State Legislations also to make appropriate Laws for ensuring reservation in such institutions.

Setting up of National Universities

2157. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to set up 50 National Universities as recommended by the National Knowledge Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The National Knowledge Commission has *inter-alia* recommended establishment of 50 National Universities. The recommendations of the National Knowledge Commission are in the public domain for wider debate among all stake holder.

Regulatory authority for standards and degrees

2158. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no independent regulatory authority to monitor standards and degrees in universities;

(b) if so, whether it is proposed to set up one such body;